



# Village of Oak Park

123 Madison Street  
Oak Park, Illinois 60302  
www.oak-park.us

## Meeting Minutes

### President and Board of Trustees

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Monday, July 24, 2017

7:00 PM

Public Works Center

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#### I. Call to Order

President Abu-Taleb called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

#### II. Roll Call

Trustee Button joined the meeting at 7:05pm.

**Present:** 7 - Village Trustee Button, Village Trustee Taglia, Village President Abu-Taleb, Village Trustee Tucker, Village Trustee Moroney, Village Trustee Boutet, and Village Trustee Andrews

**Absent:** 0

#### III. Agenda Approval

It was moved by Village Trustee Moroney, seconded by Village Trustee Andrews to approve the agenda. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

#### IV. Non-Agenda Public Comment

Michele Kruegel: Ms. Kruegel spoke in opposition of Taco Bell's request for a zoning variance for a driveway that does not meet current zoning standards. It is her hope that the Village Board will respect the decision of the Zoning Board and not approve a variance.

Brooke Miller: Ms. Miller spoke in opposition of a variance for Taco Bell. Ms. Miller is a newer resident of Oak Park who invested in Oak Park and loves her new home. She will likely move if a Taco Bell variance is permitted. She does not feel she will regain her investment if a variance is permitted.

Benjamin Hill: Mr. Hill is a 13-year resident in opposition of a variance for Taco Bell on Madison Street in Oak Park. Mr. Hill quoted several reasons for which the Zoning Board denied a variance for Taco Bell. His firm opinion is that not every business is a business to have in Oak Park.

Chris Donovan: Mr. Donovan spoke in opposition of Village Board members and Village staff serving on the Oak Park Economic Development Corporation with a voting role. Mr. Donovan quoted the Village Ethics Code and the Village Impartiality Statement. Mr. Donovan requested that the matter be directed to the Ethics Committee.

Qia Carswell: Ms. Carswell spoke to address a recent incident between an Oak Park Police Officer and an African-American male youth. Ms. Carswell quoted the Oak Park Diversity Statement and asked that the Village take steps to improve relationships

between young black males and police officers.

## VI. Regular Agenda

### A. [ID 17-565](#) Review, Discussion and Update of 2017-2019 Board Goals

Village Manager Pavlicek introduced the Board objectives and goals from September 21, 2015. Assistant Village Manager Shelley posted them on the wall for the Board to see as listed below.

Core Values:

- Be fiscally responsible,
- Be accountable (including outside agencies),
- Communicate & celebrate success, and
- Build trust.

Objective #1. Economic Development

Objective #2. Intergovernmental Relationships

Objective #3. Service Delivery

Objective #4. Minimize the Impact of the Eisenhower Expressway on our Community

Objective #5. Revisit Parking Systems

Each Objective had several goals identified in 2015, provided in the agenda packet (File #: ID 17-565)

Village Manager Shelley acted as a scribe for the Village Board as they evaluated previous goals and objectives to determine what goals and objectives they would have as a Board going forward.

Consensus was had to remove Objective #4 and #5 from 2015 Board Goals as they are both in progress.

Discussion led to agreeing on the following 6 Board Objectives with goals listed below for moving forward:

Objective #1. Economic Development

Trustee Andrews would like to see a matching fund for small business marketing and facade or ground work. In addition Trustee Andrews would like to support educational opportunities through the Chamber of Commerce. Trustee Button would like to see better collaboration between Oak Park agencies to together market Oak Park and Village support to investigate subsidizing small business expenses. Trustee Moroney would like to have a forum with the business community to further discuss how to best help small business. Trustee Moroney would like to see development in areas of Oak Park that have not received a lot of attention before now; Roosevelt Road, North Avenue, the Arts District, and Madison Street. Trustee Button would like to evaluate the progress of the Business Association Council (BAC). Trustee Tucker would like to see what the Village can do to help businesses work through periods of construction. Trustee Taglia would be interested investigating the benefit of consolidating business districts. President Abu-Taleb has 3 specific goals he would like the Village to reach through Economic Development; 1) increase debt spending by 100 million by 2025, 2) increase income from sales tax from 6.5% to 7.5% by 2025, 3) increase Village population by 3,000 for 2025. Trustee Moroney and President Abu-Taleb cautioned that we should not over regulate smaller development to prevent discouraging development in Oak Park.

**Objective #2. Financial and Fiscal Responsibility**

Trustee Andrews would like to strive for a surplus budget and reduce discretionary spending. Trustee Taglia would like to see Village staff budget more closely to the actual. Trustee Boutet suggests we use a data driven decision making process and closely monitor Return on Investment (ROI). Trustee Andrews suggested reducing the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Trustee Button stated she has asked for a comparison from previous year statement for the budget approving process and would like to make sure it is included moving forward. Trustee Andrews would also like to assess partner agency funding.

**Objective #3. Service Delivery & Technology**

Trustee Button suggested developing or updating the social media policy for the Board and for commissions. Trustee Button would like to see the Village engage residents more through social media. Trustee Andrews would like to see more information available on the Village website. He referenced Evanston as an example for sharing financial statements and available studies. Trustee Tucker suggested information should be easier to find on the website and that Village produced messaging could be more dynamic.

**Objective #4. Sustainability**

There was consensus that the obvious first step would be to hire a sustainability director and permit that person to make suggestions for how to spend available sustainability dollars. Trustee Andrews would like to see a job description with identified deliverables. Trustee Moroney would like to strengthen the Village commitment to PlanIt Green. Trustee Button and Trustee Tucker would like to see sustainability efforts initiated with intergovernmental relationships and with neighboring communities. There was consensus to revisit the Climate Mayors Resolution, develop a community solar program, purchase hybrids and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) vehicles whenever possible. Trustee Taglia would like to see the sustainability director strive for a goal of tripling grant funds and investigate in-ground composting.

**Objective #5. Infrastructure**

Trustee Moroney would like it to be a priority of the Village to address the poor working conditions of our Police Department and consider building a new facility. Mayor Abu-Taleb would like to have 2 elevators installed at Village Hall and improve landscaping in an effort to be a good neighbor.

**Objective #6. Affordable Housing**

It was agreed to discuss options for addressing affordable housing after a scheduled September special meeting on the subject.

The Village Board agreed to add the following two values to the Village Board Core Values from 2015:

- Promote intergovernmental relationships, and
- Practice good government; be consensus oriented, transparent, accountable, and responsive.

**B. [ID 17-566](#)****Review, Discussion and Update of Board Protocols dated September 21, 2015**

Agenda VI. B. Public comment

Christopher Donovan: Mr. Donovan has referenced addressing the Village Board several times and is waiting for a response on several issues. As a matter of protocol the Village Board has stated that one of them or staff will respond when requested. He has not received a response.

It was agreed to postpone further review of protocols for another meeting.

## **VII. Adjourn**

It was moved by Village Trustee Andrews, seconded by Village Trustee Boutet to adjourn. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:35pm on Monday, July 24, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Village Clerk Scaman